

CLAIMS

Therefore, the following is claimed:

- Sub B47
1. A system for determining and predicting performance of a communication device, comprising:
    - means for specifying a report period, said report period corresponding to a reporting period of interest;
    - means for specifying a plurality of summary periods, each said summary period corresponding to a portion of said reporting period;
    - means for processing a retrieved plurality of selected data parameters into a plurality of performance parameters corresponding to actual performance of said communication device during each of said summary periods and a plurality of trend parameters to predict future performance of said communication device; and
    - means for presenting and displaying said plurality of performance parameters and said plurality of trend parameters in a trend report.
  2. The system of claim 1, further comprising a means for recommending a performance rating based upon said plurality of trend parameters.
  3. The system of claim 1, wherein at least one of said plurality of data parameters is a burst statistic.
  4. The system of claim 3, further comprising a means for specifying the number of said plurality of burst ranges.
  5. The system of claim 3, further comprising a means for specifying said percentage range for each one of said plurality of burst ranges.

1           6.     The system of claim 3, wherein said processing means further comprises a burst  
2 range trending means which predicts future performance of said communication device relative  
3 to each said burst range.

1           7.     The system of claim 6, wherein at least one of said plurality of burst ranges is a  
2 total burst range corresponding to the total number of all bits transmitted during each of said  
3 plurality of summary periods.

1           8.     The system of claim 1, wherein said processing means determines said plurality of  
2 trend parameters using a statistical regression algorithm.

1           9.     The system of claim 8, wherein said statistical regression algorithm is a linear  
regression algorithm.

10.     The system of claim 8, wherein said processing means further process said  
plurality of trend parameters to predict the time at which capacity of said communication device  
should be changed.

11.     The system of claim 1, wherein said performance rating corresponds to a port  
speed of a port residing in said communications device, wherein said port speed corresponds to  
the rate at which data is transmitted through said port.

1           12.     A system for determining and predicting performance of a communication device,  
2 comprising:

3           a data poller, wherein said data poller collects a plurality of data parameters from said  
4 communication device;

5           a database which stores said data parameters;

6           a user interface, wherein a user specifies a report period, said report period corresponding  
7 to a reporting period of interest, and said user specifies a plurality of summary periods, each said  
8 summary period corresponding to a portion of said reporting period;

9           a processor, wherein said processor retrieves a plurality of selected data parameters from  
10 said database such that said plurality of selected data parameters corresponds to said plurality of  
11 summary periods, and wherein said processor processes said plurality of selected data parameters  
12 into a plurality of performance parameters which correspond to actual performance of said  
13 communication device during each of said summary periods, and wherein said processor trends  
14 said plurality of performance parameters into a plurality of trend parameters to predict future  
15 performance of said communication device;

16           a data presentation module, said module presents said plurality of processed performance  
17 parameters and said plurality of trend parameters in a trend report; and

18           a graphical user interface which displays said trend report.

19           13.     The system of claim 12, wherein said processor recommends a performance rating  
20 based upon said plurality of trend parameters.

21           14.     The system of claim 12, wherein at least one of said plurality of data parameters is  
22 a burst statistic.

23           15.     The system of claim 14, wherein a user specifies via said user interface the  
24 number of said plurality of burst ranges.

25           16.     The system of claim 14, wherein a user specifies via said user interface said  
26 percentage range for each said burst range.

1 17. The system of claim 14, wherein said processor further trends each said burst  
2 range to predict future performance of said communication device relative to each said burst  
3 range.

1 18. The system of claim 17, wherein at least one of said burst ranges is a total burst  
2 range corresponding to the total number of all bits transmitted during each of said plurality of  
3 summary periods.

1 19. The system of claim 12, wherein said processor generates said plurality of trend  
2 parameters using a statistical regression algorithm.

1 20. The system of claim 19, wherein said statistical regression algorithm is a linear  
2 regression algorithm.

1 21. The system of claim 19, wherein said plurality of trend parameters predict the  
2 time at which capacity of said communication device should be generated.

1 22. The system of claim 12, wherein said performance rating corresponds to a port  
2 speed of a port residing in said communications device, wherein said port speed corresponds to  
3 the rate at which data is transmitted through said port.

1           23.     A method for determining and predicting performance of a communication  
2 device, the method comprising the steps of:  
3           collecting a plurality of data parameters from said communication device;  
4           specifying a report period, said report period corresponding to a reporting period of  
5 interest and a plurality of summary periods, each said summary period corresponding to a portion  
6 of said reporting period;  
7           processing said plurality of selected data parameters into a plurality of performance  
8 parameters corresponding to actual performance of said communication device during each of  
9 said summary periods, and processing said plurality of performance parameters into a plurality of  
10 trend parameters to predict future performance of said communication device; and  
11           presenting said plurality of performance parameters and said plurality of trend parameters  
12 in a trend report.

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1           34.    A computer readable medium having a program for determining and predicting  
2 performance of a communication device, the program comprising logic configured to perform the  
3 steps of:

4           receiving a specification of a report period from a user, said report period corresponding  
5 to a reporting period of interest;

6           receiving a specification for a plurality of summary periods, each said summary period  
7 corresponding to a portion of said reporting period;

8           retrieving a plurality of selected data parameters, said plurality of selected data  
9 parameters corresponding to said plurality of summary periods;

10          processing said plurality of selected data parameters into a plurality of performance  
11 parameters corresponding to actual performance of said communication device during each of  
12 said summary periods;

13          trending said plurality of performance parameters into a plurality of trend parameters to  
14 predict future performance of said communication device; and

15          presenting said plurality of processed performance parameters and said plurality of trend  
16 parameters in a trend report.

17           35.    The computer readable medium of claim 34, further comprising logic configured  
18 to perform the step of recommending a performance rating based upon said plurality of trend  
19 parameters.  
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1           36.     A method for determining and predicting performance of a communication  
2 device, the method comprising the steps of:  
3           retrieving a plurality of selected data parameters from a communication device, such that  
4 said plurality of selected data parameters corresponds to a plurality of summary periods;  
5           processing said plurality of selected data parameters into a plurality of performance  
6 parameters corresponding to actual performance of said communication device during each of  
7 said summary periods;  
8           trending said plurality of performance parameters into a plurality of trend parameters to  
9 predict future performance of said communication device; and  
10          recommending a performance rating based upon said trend parameters.

1           37.     A system for determining and predicting performance of a communication device,  
2 comprising  
3           a user interface, wherein a user specifies a report period, said report period corresponding  
4 to a reporting period of interest, and said user specifies a plurality of summary periods, each said  
5 summary period corresponding to a portion of said reporting period; and  
6           a processor, wherein said processor detects a plurality of selected data parameters from  
7 said communications device such that said plurality of selected data parameters corresponds to  
8 said plurality of summary periods, and wherein said processor processes said plurality of selected  
9 data parameters into a plurality of performance parameters which correspond to actual  
10 performance of said communication device during each of said summary periods, and wherein  
11 said processor trends said plurality of performance parameters into a plurality of trend parameters  
12 to predict future performance of said communication device, and wherein said processor  
13 recommends a performance rating based upon said plurality of trend parameters.



1           38.     A system for determining and predicting performance of a communication device,  
2 comprising:

3           means for collecting a plurality of data parameters from said communication device;

4           means for storing said data parameters;

5           means for specifying a report period, said report period corresponding to a reporting  
6 period of interest;

7           means for specifying a plurality of summary periods, each said summary period  
8 corresponding to a portion of said reporting period;

9           means for retrieving a plurality of selected data parameters from said storing means, said  
10 plurality of selected data parameters corresponding to said plurality of summary periods;

11           means for processing said plurality of selected data parameters into a plurality of  
12 performance parameters corresponding to actual performance of said communication device  
13 during each of said summary periods;

14           means for trending said plurality of performance parameters into a plurality of trend  
15 parameters to predict future performance of said communication device;

16           means for recommending a performance rating based upon said plurality of trend  
17 parameters;

18           means for presenting said plurality of processed performance parameters and said  
19 plurality of trend parameters in a trend report; and

20           means for displaying said trend report.

1           39.     A method for determining and predicting performance of a communication  
2 device, the method comprising the steps of:  
3           collecting a plurality of data parameters from said communication device;  
4           storing said data parameters;  
5           specifying a report period, said report period corresponding to a reporting period of  
6 interest;  
7           specifying a plurality of summary periods, each said summary period corresponding to a  
8 portion of said reporting period;  
9           retrieving a plurality of selected data parameters from storage, said plurality of selected  
10 data parameters corresponding to said plurality of summary periods;  
11           processing said plurality of selected data parameters into a plurality of performance  
12 parameters corresponding to actual performance of said communication device during each of  
13 said summary periods;  
14           trending said plurality of performance parameters into a plurality of trend parameters to  
15 predict future performance of said communication device;  
16           recommending a performance rating based upon said plurality of trend parameters;  
17           presenting said plurality of processed performance parameters and said plurality of trend  
18 parameters in a trend report; and  
19           displaying said trend report.

1           40.     A transmitter, comprising:

2           a user interface, wherein a user specifies a report period, said report period corresponding  
3 to a reporting period of interest, and said user specifies a plurality of summary periods, each said  
4 summary period corresponding to a portion of said reporting period;

5           a processor, wherein said processor retrieves a plurality of selected data parameters such  
6 that said plurality of selected data parameters corresponds to said plurality of summary periods,  
7 and wherein said processor processes said plurality of selected data parameters into a plurality of  
8 performance parameters which correspond to actual performance of said communication device  
9 during each of said summary periods, and wherein said processor trends said plurality of  
10 performance parameters into a plurality of trend parameters to predict future performance of said  
11 communication device, and wherein said processor recommends a performance rating based  
12 upon said plurality of trend parameters; and

13           a data presentation module, said module presents said plurality of processed performance  
14 parameters and said plurality of trend parameters in a trend report.

1           41.     A receiver, comprising:

2           a user interface, wherein a user specifies a report period, said report period corresponding  
3 to a reporting period of interest, and said user specifies a plurality of summary periods, each said  
4 summary period corresponding to a portion of said reporting period;

5           a processor, wherein said processor retrieves a plurality of selected data parameters such  
6 that said plurality of selected data parameters corresponds to said plurality of summary periods,  
7 and wherein said processor processes said plurality of selected data parameters into a plurality of  
8 performance parameters which correspond to actual performance of said communication device  
9 during each of said summary periods, and wherein said processor trends said plurality of  
10 performance parameters into a plurality of trend parameters to predict future performance of said  
11 communication device, and wherein said processor recommends a performance rating based  
12 upon said plurality of trend parameters; and

13           a data presentation module, said module presents said plurality of processed performance  
14 parameters and said plurality of trend.